

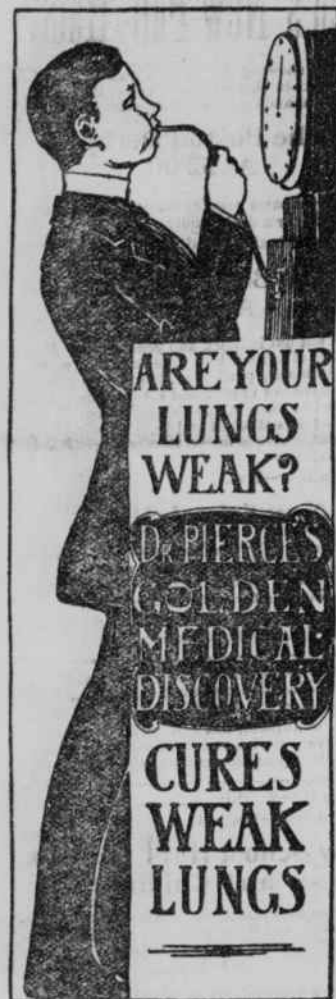
Alexandria Gazette

VOLUME CV.--NO. 221. ALEXANDRIA, VA., SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 17, 1904. PRICE 2 CENTS.

MEDICINAL.

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Alexandria Gazette.

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[Entered at the Postoffice of Alexandria, Virginia, as second-class matter.]

OYAMA AND LEE.

General Fitzhugh Lee, who is pursuing the peaceful avocation of president of the Jamestown Exposition Company, at Norfolk, likens the operations of Field Marshal Oyama to those of Gen. Robert E. Lee. He said:

"I have been carefully scanning the reports from Manchuria since the first definite reports began coming to our newspapers and I am impressed with the remarkable similarity between the campaign of Field Marshal Oyama around Liaoyang and Gen. Robert E. Lee's strategy before the second battle of Manassas.

"It is not unusual for officers commanding armies to study the campaigns of the great commanders and the knowledge so acquired is frequently invaluable, especially where the topographical features are similar and the proportion between the opposing forces bears a resemblance. To give an instance, just before the first battle of Manassas, being a young staff officer at the time, I visited General Beauregard in his tent. I found him bending over the 'Campaigns of Napoleon.' Of course, I do not know whether or not he gained any hint of value by his study, but this instance fell under my own observation.

"It is no discredit to Oyama, therefore, to assume that he has studied General Lee's strategy and tactics. There are so many points of resemblance that it would be difficult to explain them by the theory of coincidences. General Lee paid much attention to his enemy's flanks, and, unless he was fighting a defensive battle, he always assaulted the right or left of his opponent. In his first battle after being placed in command of the troops defending Richmond, he so maneuvered as to crush McClellan's right. In his next fight, the second battle of Manassas, he turned the right flank of Pope's army. Oyama has been adopting the same tactics against Kuropatkin and has met with the same success.

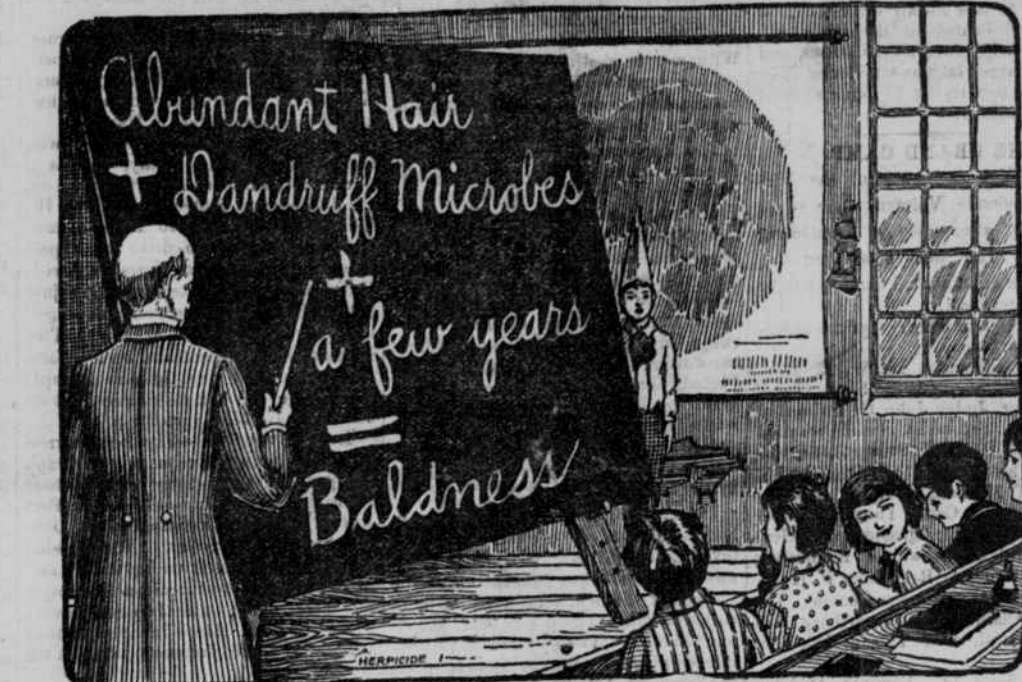
"I was particularly impressed with the strategy displayed by Field Marshal Oyama in his maneuvers on the front and flank of Kuropatkin's army at Liaoyang. It is almost an exact reproduction of Lee's movements in front of Pope on the Rappahannock river immediately before the second battle of Manassas.

The federal and southern armies were lying opposite each other with the river flowing between them. Lee's army was divided into two corps under Longstreet and Jackson. Oyama's army seems to have been divided into three under Oku, Nodzu and Kuroki. Leaving Longstreet on Pope's front, as Oyama left Oku and Nodzu on Kuropatkin's front, Lee directed Jackson to move up the river, cross it and bring his whole corps, if possible, in the rear of Pope's army. Concerning this march I am well informed, because I accompanied Jackson with my cavalry. After crossing the river Jackson moved almost at right angles to it until he reached Gainesville, where he camped for the night after having marched 26 miles. The next day he turned exactly at right angles, passed through Thoroughfare Gap and struck the railroad between Pope's position and Washington at a place called Bristow station, 26 miles in the rear of Pope's center, where he bivouacked for the night, having marched in those two hot days in August 56 miles.

"On just about the same day of the same month, 42 years later, under very similar conditions, Oyama dispatched Kuroki on an identical mission. Kuroki, circling Kuropatkin's left, crossed the Taite, and proceeded at right angles to the river about 20 miles. Making a sharp turn to the left, he passed the Yental hills to the town of Yental, on the road to Mukden, directly in the rear of Kuropatkin.

"Before Manassas Pope was confronted with these alternatives—to cross the Rappahannock and throw his whole force on Longstreet and destroy him, if possible, or about face, counter-march, and concentrate his army on Jackson, who was interrupting railway and telegraph communication with his base, Alexandria and Washington. He decided on the latter course, and gave orders to concentrate on Jackson at Manassas, whether the latter had gone from Bristow the day after he reached that station. Jackson did not stay at Manassas, however, but doubled-backed on his course, and placed himself in position to form a junction with Longstreet. Three days later the two wings reunited under General Lee's command.

"Just what marching and counter-marching was done by Kuroki is not entirely clear from the published accounts, but it is evident that his position in the rear of Kuropatkin's army, with the main body of the Japanese army in front and concentrating at the same objective point, was effective, and probably contributed in the largest degree to the victory of the Japanese. An examination of the newspaper maps will show how very similar Oyama's contests with Kuropatkin at Liaoyang and on the Taite were to Lee's maneuvers in front of Pope on the Rappahannock. Kuroki is the Stonewall Jackson of Oyama's army, for while Oyama was in front of Kuropatkin, Kuroki planted himself at his rear. Oyama evidently had the same idea that General Lee had,



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IT TAKES YEARS

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A Healthy Hair.

namely, that his opponent would be obliged to leave the river, and that Kuroki would be in a position to attack and check him should he retreat to Mukden, as Jackson checked Pope until Longstreet's division could arrive, and the two under General Lee could make battle.

"Advices from the East reported Kuropatkin's army in full retreat to Mukden, just as Pope's army retreated to Washington. "It is rather odd that the Manchurian duplicate of the Virginia battle should occur just 42 years, almost to a day, after the original, and that about the same time the soldiers from the north and south should be fighting a peaceful battle on the very ground where Pope and Lee contended. It is also curious that the only civilized nation which had no representative at the Manassas maneuvers should be Japan, who, in my opinion, has re-enacted Manassas."

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C. E. TACKETT

431 King Street. aug14

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PROPOSALS.

FORT MYER, VA., SEPTEMBER 15, 1904. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, for Brick Building for Coal Testing Plant at this Post, will be received until 10 A. M., October 17, 1904, and then publicly opened. The right is reserved to reject any proposal or part thereof. Information furnished upon application. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked "Proposals for Building for Coal Testing Plant," and addressed to CAPTAIN G. C. BARNHART, Quartermaster. sep15,16,17,19,oct14,15

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